

CALENDAR

MASSACHUSETTS PESTICIDE EXAM SCHEDULE

UMASS Eastern Extension Center—240 Beaver St., Waltham

APRIL 5. Deadline for submitting application is **MARCH 29.**

APRIL 19. Deadline for submitting application is **APRIL 12.**

QUESTIONS CALL—617-626-1785.

APRIL 10---FRUIT TREE PRUNING---Shieling Forest, Peterborough, NH **CALL—603-431-6774**

APRIL 12---ORCHARD MANAGEMENT MEETING---Portsmouth, NH—**CALL—603-863-3203**

APRIL 13---BEEKEEPING WORKSHOP---Walpole, NH—**CALL—603-756-9056**

APRIL 13 and 15---PRUNING DEMONSTRATION---Dover, NH **CALL—603-749-4445**

APRIL 21---NORTHEAST ORGANIC FARMING ASSOCIATION WORKSHOP---Shelburne Falls, MA
CALL—413-528-4387

FDA ISSUES BIOTERRORISM DEFENSE GUIDELINES

By Larry Waterfield

The Food and Drug Administration has issued new food security guidelines to protect the nation's food supply against a bioterrorism threat.

The voluntary guidelines are being issued in two sets: one for domestic food sources and the other for imported foods. The guidelines are already in effect, before a public comment period begins.

Joe Levitt, head of the FDA's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, said the guidelines provide a "consistent blueprint that any company can follow."

Domestic food sources, from farm to supermarket, are urged:

- To watch for unusual behavior by new employees.
- Conduct regular inspections of employee lockers, bags or vehicles.
- Prevent workers from bringing personal items like lunches into food handling areas.
- Beware of employees coming early or staying late.
- Inspect incoming and outgoing vehicles for suspicious activities.
- Beware of unsolicited visitors.
- Restrict access to laboratories.
- Watch for signs of tampering with packages and equipment.

Employers are urged to check the background of employees to make sure they have no criminal records.

Attention should be paid to the physical security of the facilities, such as by locking and securing doors, windows and other access points. Security should include patrols and surveillance. Security rules also should apply to trucks and other transport means.

Importers should check the immigrant status of employees, color code uniforms so it is clear when employees are outside regular work areas, authenticate incoming products by checking for proper product codes and inspect employee bags, lockers and vehicles.

Congress is working on anti-bioterrorism legislation that would allow the FDA and other agencies to beef up food and import inspections and require more company record-keeping about food shipments.

In general, industry reaction to the guidelines has been favorable.

The FDA began working on the proposed guidelines in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and after a Defense Department analysis said the food supply was vulnerable to attack.

Experts say the fresh produce supply is especially vulnerable because it is sold raw and the distribution system is widespread.

(Article from "*THE PACKER*" Jan. 14, 2002)

APPLE SHIPMENT TRACKING

Source: USDA

Amounts are shown in units of 10,000 pounds

Season Begins	03/10/02- 03/16/02	03/03/02- 03/09/02	03/11/01- 03/16/01	Total this season 03/16/02	Total last season 03/17/01
SEPTEMBER					
	11,104	12,455	11,643	262,683	303438

MID-WEEK F.O.B. PRICES AT MASSACHUSETTS COUNTRY SHIPPING POINT

Prices and grades received by telephone, APRIL 2, 2002

Controlled Atmosphere

VARIETY	GRADE	SIZE	PRICE
McINTOSH	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s	19.00
		96s	18.50
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	12.50
	Cartons Tote Bags U.S. Fancy	8-5s 2-1/2" min	14.00
EMPIRE	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s	18.00
		96s	17.50
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	11.50
	Cartons Tote Bags U.S. Fancy	8-5s 2-1/2" min	13.00
RED DELICIOUS	Cartons Tray Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	80s & 88s	13.50
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	11.00
	Cartons Tote Bags U.S. Fancy	8-5s 2-1/2" min	13.00

FEDERAL MARKET NEWS SERVICE, EVERETT, MASS.

APRIL 1, 2002

Controlled Atmosphere

NEW ENGLAND			
McINTOSH	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	100s	20.00
		120s	15.00
	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Fancy	80s	16.00-18.00
		96s	15.00-16.00
	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. No. 1	80s	12.00
		100s, 120s, 140s	9.00- 9.50
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. No. 1	12-3s 2-1/2" min	12.00
		12-3s 2-1/4" min	9.00-10.00
CORTLAND	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. Extra Fancy	72s	20.00
		80s	18.00
		96s	17.00
	Cartons Cell Pack U.S. No. 1	72s	15.00
		80s	12.00-15.00 mostly 15.00
	Cartons Film Bags U.S. Fancy	12-3s 2-1/4" min	15.00-16.00
SHIPPED IN			

McINTOSH	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. ExFcy	80s & 100s	19.00-20.00
	Lake Champlain Ctns CelPk U.S. ExFcy	80s	22.50-23.50
		100s	20.00-22.00
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. No. 1	80s	11.00
		100s	10.00
		120s	9.50
	Lake Champlain Ctns FlmBg U.S. ExFcy		

SHIPPED IN

McINTOSH	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. ExFcy	80s & 100s	19.00-20.00
	Lake Champlain Ctns CelPk U.S. ExFcy	80s	22.50-23.50
		100s	20.00-22.00
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. No. 1	80s	11.00
		100s	10.00
		120s	9.50
	Lake Champlain Ctns FlmBg U.S. ExFcy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	12.00
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns FlmBg U.S. ExFcy	12-3s 2-1/4" min	10.00

EMPIRE	PA Cartons Cell Pack U.S. ExFcy	88s	17.00
HONEY CRISP	NY Hudson Valley Ctns CelPk U.S. ExFcy	48s, 56s, 64s	18.00
	NY Hudson Valley Ctns FlmBgs U.S. ExFcy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	7.50
RED DELICIOUS	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	64s	16.00-18.00 mostly 17.00-18.00 fine appear. 19.00-21.00
		72s & 80s	16.00-17.00 fine appear. 19.00-21.00 mostly 20.00-21.00
		88s	16.00-17.50 fine appear. 19.00-21.00 mostly 20.00-21.00
		100s	16.00-17.00 fine appear. 18.00-20.00
		125s	16.00-18.00
GOLDEN DELICIOUS	PA Cartons Tray Pack U.S. ExFcy	100s	17.00
	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	64s	26.00-27.00
		72s	24.00-27.00 mostly 26.00
		80s	23.00-24.00 mostly 24.00
		88s	22.00-24.00 mostly 24.00
		100s	22.00-24.00 mostly 22.00
		113s	19.00-20.00
		125s	18.00-19.00 mostly 18.00
	WA Cartons Cell Pack WAExFcy	80s	27.00-28.00
		96s	26.00
		120s	18.00
ROYAL GALA	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	88s	25.00-28.00 mostly 26.00-27.00
		100s	24.00
RED ROME	PA Cartons Cell Pack U.S. ExFcy	80s	16.00
FUJI	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	56s	23.00-24.00
		64s	23.00
		80s & 88s	24.00-26.00 mostly 24.00
		100s	21.00-22.00
JONAGOLD	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	80s	22.00
CAMEO	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	80s	22.00
	NY Western Section Ctns CelPk U.S. Extra Fancy	80s	17.00-19.00
PINK LADY	WA Cartons Tray pack WAExFcy	80s	30.00
		100s	31.50
	CA Ctns Tray Pack U.S. ExFcy	64s & 72s	27.00
		88s	24.00
GRANNY SMITH	WA Cartons Tray Pack WAExFcy	64s	27.00-29.00
		72s	25.50-29.00 mostly 27.00-29.00
		80s	26.00-28.00
		88s	24.00-26.00
		100s	19.00-22.00 mostly 20.00
		113s	18.00-19.00
		125s	17.00-19.00 mostly 17.00-18.00
	WA Cartons Film Bags WAExFcy	12-3s 2-1/2" min	16.00-18.00 mostly 18.00
CIDER New England Preserved Cartons		4-1 gallon bottles	9.00- 9.40 mostly 9.00
		9 ½-gallon bottles	10.00 best 11.25
Howard Vinton, Editor			

